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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7643
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEDHSC/MSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RHFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEATRS/TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY

S E C R E T MANAMA 000138

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/06/2018
TAGS: PREL PTER EFIN ECON IR BA
SUBJECT: REISSUE - U/S LEVEY ENGAGES GOB OFFICIALS ON
TERRORISM, IRANIAN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION FINANCE

Classified By: Ambassador Ereli, reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

1.(U) The following is a reissuance of Manama 127 that includes Treasury U/S Levey's revision and clearance. ------ SUMMARY -----

12. (S) Central Bank governor Al-Maraj told U/S Levey he was unable to take further action against Future Bank, but understood that the USG wou 3.(S) In a meeting joined by the Ambassador with Foreign Minister Sheikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa February 26, Treasury U/S for Terrorism an 4.(S) U/S Levey also raised the status of the Bahraini proposal to host a regional workshop on the regulation and oversight of charity fundrais 5.(S) U/S Levey told Shaikh Khalid that the USG would likely designate Future Bank in the coming few weeks (Note: Future Bank, a Bahraini entit 6.(C) U/S Levey noted that the USG had thus far designated Bank Melli and Bank Saderat and their subsidiaries everywhere else in the world, but 7.(C) Shaikh Khalid noted reputational concerns and a desire to keep the Bahraini financial system "clean" and asked U/S Levey to give him "twc 8.(C) In a separate meeting, Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) Governor Rasheed Al-Maraj defended the actions the CBB had taken to date on Future E 9.(C) U/S Levey also raised concerns about the Central Bank of Iran's activities going beyond those typically carried out by a central bank. Ir 10.(C) Governor Al-Maraj replied that, while CBB officials had verbally conveyed to all Bahraini financial institutions the need for caution in 11.(S) U/S Levey said that the upcoming UNSCR on Iran would likely include language urging increased vigilance on all Iranian banks, specifical 12.(S) U/S Levey also raised specific concern with Arab Banking Corporation (ABC). According to information available to the USG, ABC continues 13.(C) On U.S. and UN sanctions, U/S Levey noted that the intent was not to punish Iran by crippling its banking system. Rather, these sanction 14.(U) Post will report other U/S Levey meetings septel.